



St. John Brebeuf Schoolconnection

Living, Learning, Serving in Christ

The Christmas season is so special for children: full of wonder, awe, and excitement. It is my favourite time of year at school and one of the many reasons I love working in a Catholic environment. Being able to celebrate Christmas with our students within the context of our faith tradition is a special privilege for an educator, and it fills me with gratitude.

This year is definitely going to be different. Usually the month of December is full of bustle and excitement with preparations for our Christmas concert, and our beloved pancake breakfast, among other events. These traditions will be greatly missed this year as they bring the community together and help build unity among us. However, in looking for silver linings, the quietness of this usually chaotic time can be looked upon as a gift by allowing our thoughts to turn inward as we prayerfully reflect on the tranquility and peace of the Christmas season.

In this season of warmth and generosity, thoughts inevitably turn to social justice, a cornerstone of our programming here at St. John Brebeuf School. Please consider supporting our two Christmas initiatives (one local and one international): the N.E.E.D.S Center and the *Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference* campaign. The N.E.E.D.S Centre supports newly arrived refugee families in Winnipeg. In previous years classes have been responsible for providing a hamper to a family. This year it will be a cash donation toward a gift card for a family instead. Run by the Sister of the Missions, Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference provides critical assistance in improving the standard of living for some of the most marginalized and impoverished people in our world. We recognize that some families may not be in a position to support these campaigns this year, but if you can donate we ask you to as the vulnerable suffer more than usual in times of hardship.

Our classes have been working hard to produce a virtual Christmas piece in lieu of our Christmas concert. Stay tuned on December 17th to see your child's Christmas performance this year!

Wishing you all the best of the season,

Cara Campbell

Principal

*Peace
on
Earth*

BY: Aakasha

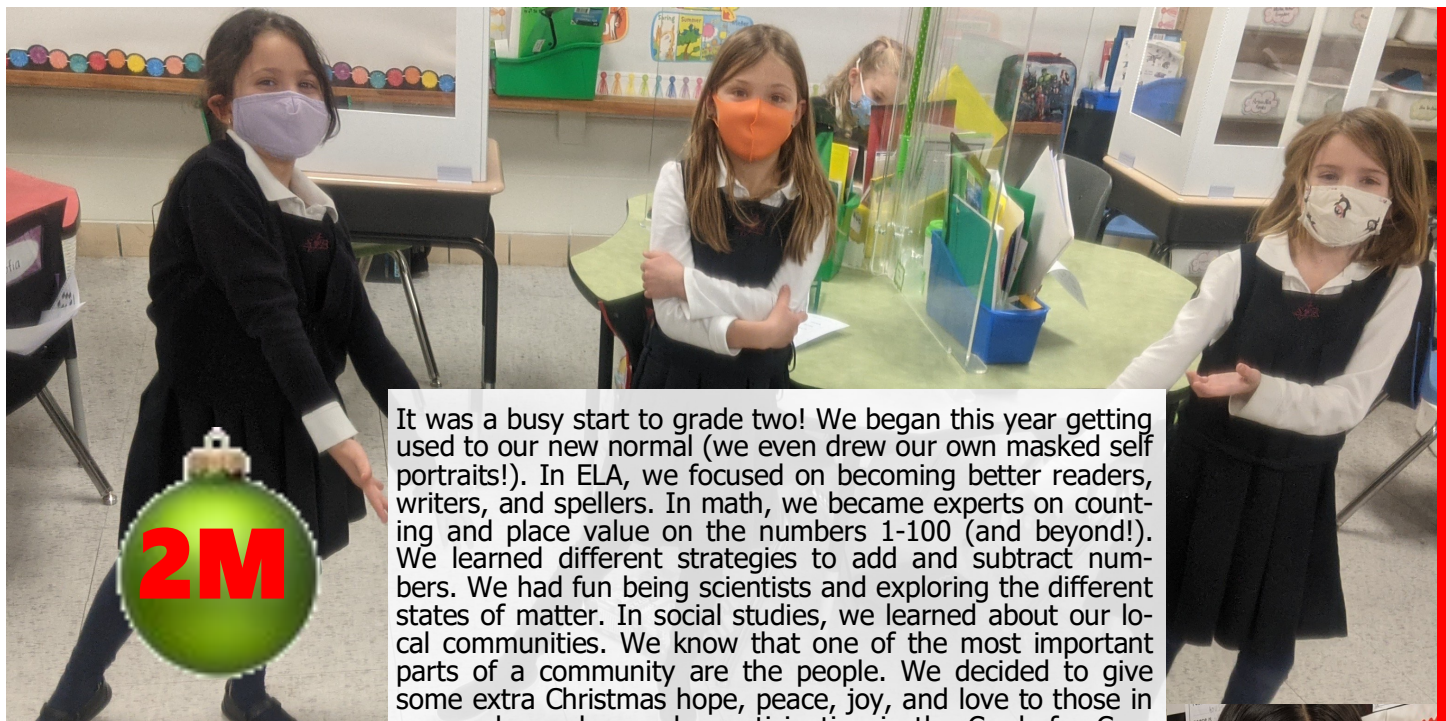
Parent Advisory Council

What an exciting school year we have had so far! With your support of Hot Lunch and Popcorn Days, PAC has raised over 1800 this year! We are actively seeking new and exciting ways to fundraise. We are hoping in 2021 we can have an opportunity to share those with you all. If you would like to share an idea or provide feedback to PAC, please email us at PAC@SJBSCHOOL.COM.

To all of our teachers, staff and SJB families, we would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and well wishes for a safe and happy new year.

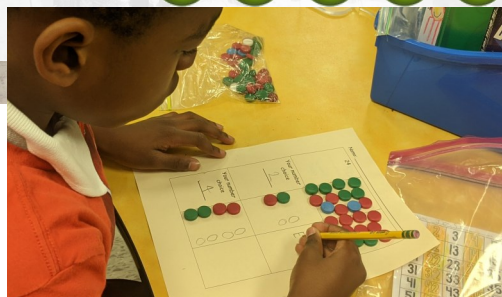
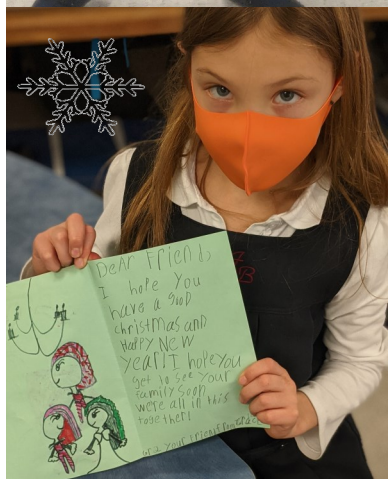
Kelly Morganti, PAC Chair





It was a busy start to grade two! We began this year getting used to our new normal (we even drew our own masked self portraits!). In ELA, we focused on becoming better readers, writers, and spellers. In math, we became experts on counting and place value on the numbers 1-100 (and beyond!). We learned different strategies to add and subtract numbers. We had fun being scientists and exploring the different states of matter. In social studies, we learned about our local communities. We know that one of the most important parts of a community are the people. We decided to give some extra Christmas hope, peace, joy, and love to those in personal care homes by participating in the Cards for Care program. We designed our own Christmas cards and are excited for them to be received! We are looking forward to more learning and growing during rest of the school year!

Sincerely,
Ms. Misa



REGISTRATION

The 2021-22 Kindergarten registration deadline is Friday, February 5th. Families with children already attending St. John Brebeuf School who wish to register another child in Kindergarten are asked to submit the application form available on the school website.

The grades 1-8 registration deadline for new students is Friday, February 26th.

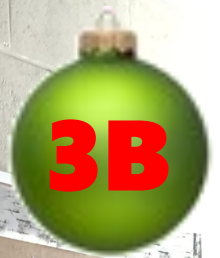
Please share this information with any families interested in our school.

BASC

The registration form for the before and after school program is available on the school website. A completed form is necessary before your child/children may use BASC.

Parents must advise the school office at 204-489-2115 or schooloffice@sjbcommunity.ca 24 hrs. in advance of using the casual program. For registration and payment information regarding BASC, please contact Mrs. Gel at finance@sjbcommunity.ca.





Wonders

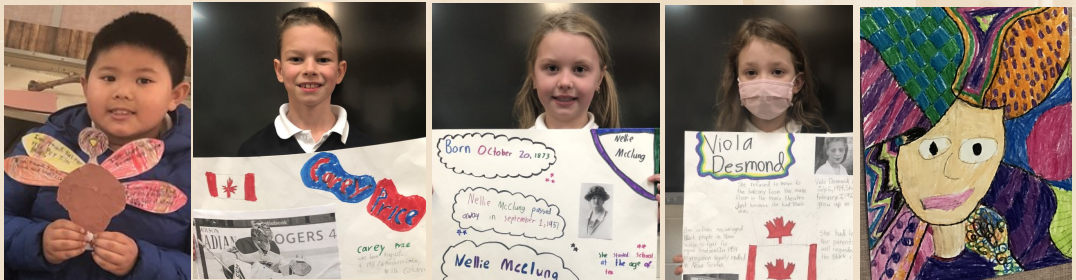
I wonder...
why where the pyramids
made and what are seifines

I wonder...
why pyramids were
built

Hello from 3B!

This school year is into full swing with lots of learning, exploring, and growing as learners. Since the beginning of the year, students have been discussing ways to show respect and kindness in the classroom and beyond. So far in math we have practiced patterns, addition and subtraction strategies, and working with numbers to 1000! In language arts, students have enjoyed writers and readers workshop where they have been exploring non-fiction texts and non-fiction text elements. 3B is filled with amazing writers who wrote expert books that taught us so much and how-to instructional writing pieces. We also finished our first novel study 'Superfudge' that had us all laughing at the silly characters and have now started the classic 'Charlotte's Web'. In October, the grade threes completed a wonderful research project in social studies about a famous Canadian. Each and every student did such a wonderful job presenting his or her poster! Over the past few weeks we have been learning a lot about Ancient Egypt in our inquiry class. Egyptian history is fascinating to 3B. Everyday is a new day to expand our understanding of the beautiful world we live in.

3B wishes a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all families.
Ms. Bator



Greetings from grade 3K!

We have had a great start to the year, given the circumstances. Students were flexible and learned the importance of the new routines quickly. We discussed how living at this time of uncertainty is a moment in history that will be remembered. Our math routines this month consisted of counting by 3's and 4's, estimating, and describing numbers in different ways. In English language arts, students are excited to be learning cursive writing and reading our second novel study this year. Students learned to appreciate the value of something made and not simply bought. Students cut-out a pattern from red felt. They sewed the pieces together using wool needles and yarn. Then, they placed warm fleece tops and sprinkled some glitter to make their very own Christmas stockings! The students were very proud of themselves for creating something they will cherish for years to come.

Mrs. Karlaftis





Hogar Belen

Moquequa, Peru

Hogar Belen is a community of the Congregation Our Lady of the Missions caring for abandoned and handicapped children and adults. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought its share of suffering to the people around Hogar Belen. The WHO has reported almost one million infected people and over 36,000 deaths.

The Sisters are trying to use the prescribed ways to prevent the contagion in the Hogar and neighbouring population. With your financial help, it will be possible to provide the centre with screening equipment and basic hygienic necessities- a Christmas gift that will make a difference.

To make an easy online donation, please visit: www.rndmcanada.org. Credit cards and PayPal are accepted. Cheque payments made payable to Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions may be dropped off at the school.

Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference

The "Christmas Gifts that Make a Difference" initiative started in 2010 by Sr. Sheila Madden, of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, to assist some of the poorest, most neglected and marginalized people in various localities throughout our world. In addition to the ongoing trials of poverty, malnutrition and widespread diseases like HIV and tuberculosis, these people must now adapt to Covid-19 realities and challenges.

This year, two projects are highlighted for this giving campaign. One is Hogar Belen in Peru, the other Queen of the Missions Afternoon School in India. Your help will make a difference in the lives of the people in these communities. As always, 100% of your gift goes to the project you have chosen, and charitable donation receipts will be issued.



Queen of the Missions Afternoon School

Park Circus, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Queen of the Missions Afternoon School provides free education to some 240 girl students. The majority of the children live in squatter settlements along the railway tracks. Their parents earn their wages as day workers, rag pickers, rickshaw pullers, or coolies. These families do not have access to any of the basic amenities. There is no ready water or drainage facilities.

The people are recovering from the aftermath of cyclone *Amphion*, a challenge now compounded by the pandemic. Repairing their makeshift houses, providing food, clothing and other basic needs is a daily struggle. The Sisters are ministering to the families by addressing their physical and emotional needs in the hope that the children can continue their education. Your financial gift will contribute not only to their education but to their very survival – a Christmas gift that will make a difference.

In the event of a severe weather emergency, all Catholic Schools will close if the Winnipeg school divisions close their schools. Listen for school closures on CBC, CJOB, 99.9 FM, 94.3, 102.3 FM and 103 FM. In case of an emergency that requires us to evacuate, students will go to Ecole J.B. Mitchell.

Christmas Mass

December 24th, (online) 5pm

For further information, please visit the St. John Brebeuf Parish website
www.sjbcommunity.ca



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



St. John Brebeuf School

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